

TWO HUNDRED MEN KILLED  
AN AUSTRIAN MINE DISASTER.

A SERIES OF EXPLOSIONS FOLLOWED BY  
A PIERCE FIRE.

DEADLY FATE OF A RESCUE PARTY—MANY  
MINERS ENTOMBED AND BELIEVED TO BE  
DEAD—THE VENTILATOR SHAFTS  
BURNED—CLOSING THE PITS  
WITH BRICKWORK.

Vienna, June 15.—Five distinct explosions of  
fire-damp occurred in the coal mines of Count  
Larisch, at Karwin, Austrian Silesia, last night.  
Two hundred miners were killed and many injured.  
The mines are burning fiercely.

The first explosion occurred in one of the pits  
of the Frankau mines at 10 p. m. Of the large  
number of miners at work there, 120 were killed,  
and immediately afterward there was an explosion  
in an adjoining pit. This was followed  
by several other explosions, the most serious  
being in the Johann mine, in which eighty men  
were killed.

At 1 o'clock this morning a rescue party of ten  
men went down into one of the pits. The fire in  
the pits was spreading in all directions, destroying  
the ventilator shafts. The rescue party were  
caught by the flames and perished. Large crowds  
of people, many of them the wives, children and  
other relatives of the dead miners, are congregated  
about the entrance to the shafts, giving  
expression to their grief in loud lamentations.

At 3 o'clock this afternoon fire in the mines  
had not abated, and men were set to work closing  
the pits with brickwork. It was then thought  
that all the bodies in the mine had been turned  
out. A dispatch from Karwin to-night says that  
only twenty of the miners killed by the explosion  
were recovered. Several of them were  
dying when brought to the surface. Count  
Larisch has been at Karwin since last night and  
has superintended the efforts to save the men and  
to extinguish the fire. Mining experts say that  
the fire will continue to burn for at least a week.

TRouble feared in CENTRAL AFRICA.  
THE FRENCH AND BELGIANS IN OUBANGHI, AD-  
JOINING THE CONGO STATE, ON BAD TERMS.

Brussels, June 15.—The Government has received  
news from the African district of Oubanghi, border-  
ing the Congo State, that the French and Bel-  
gians there are on bad terms. The hostile feeling  
grows out of the disputes in regard to the occupa-  
tion of that territory. As was announced in the  
French Chamber of Deputies by Mr. Hanotaux,  
French troops are on the way to Oubanghi  
to meet the Belgians, who are greatly outnumbered.  
It is hoped that an armed collision  
may be averted by negotiation between the govern-  
ments of Brussels and Paris.

SETTLING THE CUBAN DUTIES CLAIM.  
SPAN WILL PROPOSE THE APPOINTMENT OF A  
MIXED COMMISSION.

Madrid, June 15.—The Spanish Government will  
propose the appointment of a mixed commission to  
settle the difficulty between Spain and the United  
States concerning the Cuban tariff.

A WHITEWAY RIOT AT ST. JOHN'S.  
ROMAN MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION TAKE  
AN ACTIVE PART IN AN ATTACK UPON  
PROPERTY OF THE ALLAN STEAM-  
SHIP COMPANY.

St. John's, N. F., June 15.—A mob organized by  
the Whiteway party made an attempt this after-  
noon to seize the stores owned by Shea & Co.,  
of the Allan Steamship Company, where  
were stored hundreds of tons of goods. The mob  
was dispersed by the police.

ABDUL CLAIMED SULTAN IN FEZ.  
FEARS OF AN OUTBREAK THERE NOT REALIZED—  
THE POWERS TO MAINTAIN THE STATUS  
QUIT IN MOROCCO.

Tangier, June 15.—Abdul Aziz has been proclaimed  
Sultan in Fez. No militant opposition to his pro-  
clamation was made. He is a cousin of the late  
Sultan. He is a man of high character and has  
been appointed Khalifa of Fez. A large force of  
French and Algerian troops has been ordered to  
the city.

AMERICAN ARTISTS HONORED IN PARIS.  
The Paris, June 15.—The Penary Committee of the  
Champs de Mars have elected John W. Alexander,  
a member of the Society Nationale des Beaux Arts,  
the American painter, Messrs. Humphrey and Johnson,  
the sculptors, and Messrs. Bernard and Louis,  
the engravers, as exhibitors of objects of art.  
The committee have elected associates of the Society  
Nationale des Beaux Arts.

A JURY FOR SHEA SECURED.  
THE TRIAL OF THE ALLEGED MURDERER OF  
ROBERT ROSS BEGINS IN TROY.

Troy, N. Y., June 15.—When the Extraordinary  
Court of Oyer and Terminer convened this morning  
to try the case of the alleged murderer of Robert  
Ross, the first man called to the stand was  
the juror. The first man called to the stand was  
the juror. The first man called to the stand was  
the juror.

THE KAISER AT HIS FATHER'S TOMB.  
ANNIVERSARY OF EMPEROR FREDERICK'S DEATH  
—WILLIAM'S COUNSEL TO THOUP'S START-  
ING FOR AFRICA.

Berlin, June 15.—The Emperor and Empress ob-  
served the anniversary of Emperor Frederick's  
death by going to the Potsdam mausoleum this  
morning, offering silent prayer at the tomb, and  
then visiting the Kaiser's father's grave. The  
Emperor was accompanied by the Kaiser's  
cousins, the Prince of Prussia and the Prince  
of Saxony.

THE DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER BILL.  
THE SECOND READING MOVED IN THE HOUSE OF  
PEERS BY LORD DUNHAYN—DEFEATED  
BY 129 VOTES TO 120.

London, June 15.—The Earl of Dunhayan moved  
in the House of Lords today the second reading  
of the Deceased Wife's Sister bill. He said that  
the experience of the United States and Canada,  
which had forbidden a man's marrying his deceased  
wife's sister, was a sufficient refutation of the ob-  
jections of the Bishops. He was opposed by Lord  
Dunhayan, who said that a man, to marry his  
deceased wife's sister, must first have the con-  
sent of the Lord Chancellor, who would be  
able to have the ceremony performed.

GEN. MOCCENNI INSULTED BY IMBRIANI.  
THE ITALIAN CHAMBER WILDLY EXCITED OVER  
A PERSONAL AFFRONT TO THE MINISTER OF WAR.

Rome, June 15.—In the Chamber of Deputies to-day  
General Imbriani, leader of the Radicals, denounced  
the action of the Government in declining to  
investigate the insult offered to General Moccenni  
by General Imbriani. In closing his violent speech,  
he said that the Government was guilty of a  
crime of merit. I would throw my medals in Gen-  
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CROKER AT QUEENSTOWN.  
HE SAYS HE WILL REMAIN ABROAD  
INDEFINITELY.

HAD NO FEAR OF BEING SUMMONED BY THE  
LEXOW COMMITTEE, AND LEFT HOME  
SOLELY FOR HIS HEALTH—OUT OF  
POLITICS FOREVER.

Queenstown, June 15.—Richard Croker arrived  
here this evening on the Cunard steamer Uni-  
bria. Immediately after landing he was seen  
by a United Press reporter and questioned con-  
cerning the report that he had come abroad to  
escape the Lexow Investigating Committee in New-  
York.

"I was not summoned to appear before the  
Lexow Committee," he said, "and I had no fear  
of being summoned. I came abroad for my  
health, only I did not regard them as of impor-  
tance to others since I had retired from politics.  
I am out of politics forever. I have no idea who  
my successor will be, but for the illness of my mother-  
in-law."

"I do not wish to hear any politics. I am go-  
ing to Paris for the Grand Prix on Sunday. I  
shall remain over here indefinitely until I fully  
recover my health. I would have left for Paris  
months ago, but for the illness of my mother-  
in-law."

Mr. Croker added that there was no chance of  
his ever resuming the leadership of Tammany;  
that he did not know who the new leader would  
be, and that he would in no way influence the  
appointment of his successor.

THE VIGILANT'S FAST RUN.  
SIGNALLED AT TORY ISLAND, OFF THE  
NORTHWEST COAST OF IRELAND.

SHE REPORTS A PLEASANT VOYAGE AND ALL ON  
BOARD WELL—COVERED 2,700 MILES IN ABOUT  
FOURTEEN DAYS AND NINE HOURS.

London, June 15.—The American yacht Vigilant  
was signalled at Tory Island, off the northwest  
coast of Ireland, at 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.  
The captain indicated by signals that the Vigilant  
had a pleasant voyage and all on board well.  
The Vigilant was covered 2,700 miles in about  
fourteen days and nine hours.

A trail of lay was through every American  
about Printing House Square yesterday afternoon  
when the Vigilant was signalled. The fact that  
the Vigilant was signalled was a great surprise  
to the public. The Vigilant was covered 2,700  
miles in about fourteen days and nine hours.

Tory Island is on the north coast of Ireland, in  
latitudes 55° 30' north, longitude 10° 30' west, or  
about 270 miles distant from Sandy Hook. The  
Vigilant was signalled at Tory Island at 2:30  
o'clock this afternoon. The Vigilant was covered  
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CHARGED WITH FORGERY.  
ARREST OF E. J. MULLIGAN IN MONT-  
CLAIR, N. J.

THE AMOUNT INVOLVED SAID TO BE \$40,000—FOR-  
MERLY IN THE EMPLOY OF AN INSURANCE  
COMPANY IN THIS CITY.

Edward Mulligan was arrested at Montclair  
last evening at the request of Detective Von  
Gerecht, of Inspector McLaughlin's staff. Mul-  
ligan is accused of forgery in the second degree  
and was indicted by the Grand Jury yesterday.  
He worked for an insurance company at No. 189  
Broadway. The amount involved is said to be  
\$40,000, and the First National Bank of New-  
York is said to be interested in the case.

The New-York detective first visited Newark,  
where Mulligan had been living. He secured the  
assistance of Detective Carroll, of that city. They  
found that Mulligan had moved from Newark  
to Montclair. The New-Yorker then went there.  
He stated his mission to Mulligan, who said he  
would move there on Monday and he was not  
known to the police.

In a few hours they found him living at No.  
32 North Willow-st. Officer Carroll went to  
arrest him. He denied being the man wanted,  
but finally gave in when Chief English arrived  
at the house.

Mulligan has a wife and two children. It ap-  
pears he recently returned from California, where  
he went soon after committing the alleged for-  
gery. He is a brother-in-law of George A. Boyd,  
a well-known citizen of Montclair. He will  
probably consent to come to New-York and  
stand trial.

There are several insurance companies doing  
business at 189 Broadway, among them the State  
Mutual Life Assurance Co., of Worcester, Mass.;  
and the Hartford Life and Annuity and the  
Phoenix Mutual, both of New-York. Whether  
Mulligan was ever associated with one of these  
companies could not be learned in this city last  
evening.

HEARD NOTHING OF PEARY.  
THE FIRST VESSEL OF THE YEAR ARRIVES FROM  
THE ARCTIC REGIONS.

Philadelphia, June 15.—The first news from the  
Arctic regions since Lieutenant Peary invaded  
them was brought to this port today by Captain  
Peterson, of the bark Silcock, the first of the fleet  
of far North traders to arrive since last year.  
Captain Peterson says the last winter in Green-  
land was a hard one, and that the Eskimos had  
been driven from their usual haunts. The  
Eskimos made frequent trips up the coast, com-  
municating with others, but none had heard any-  
thing of the missing explorer. The Eskimos  
believe that Peary is still alive, and that he  
will be found in the Arctic regions.

Several members of the jury were visibly af-  
fected by General Tracy's remarks, and the de-  
fendant himself was at two or three points  
deeply moved. Even General Tracy was at one  
time overcome by his own emotions and was  
obliged to pause abruptly until he could recover  
his self-control.

HOW MR. WIMAN RECEIVED IT.  
The jury retired for deliberation at 2:35 o'clock  
and returned to the courtroom at 4:30 o'clock.  
Mr. Wiman received the announcement of their  
verdict with considerable composure, though  
when the jury filed out of the courtroom after  
the conclusion of the Judge's charge his form  
trembled and his eyes filled with tears. One of  
his sons grasped his hand and spoke consolingly  
to him, and immediately a group of friends sur-  
rounded him, drawing his mind away from the  
incident by engaging him in cheerful conversation.

With each moment's delay in the return of the  
jury, hope of either acquittal or disagreement  
seemed to increase. When a sudden commotion  
in the courtroom occurred, and finally Justice  
Ingraham ascended the dais, the face of Mr.  
Wiman resumed its former expression of anxiety.  
But he had been buoyed up by the conversation  
of his friends, and when the blow fell at last he  
remained standing until directed to be seated. As  
soon as the court adjourned, his friends sur-  
rounded him again and shook his hand cordially  
and expressed their sympathy. But he promptly  
responded to the call of the court officers, and  
in the custody of Deputy Sheriffs Brown and  
Kelly, he walked up Centrost to the Tombs, ac-  
companied by two of his sons. At the entrance  
he bade them a kind and fatherly goodbye. He  
passed in and was assigned to cell No. 40 in the  
Old Prison. To reporters who called on him  
afterward he made friendly responses. To The  
Tribune reporter he wrote on a slip of paper:

Dear Friend: I am sorry not to be able to see  
any one.  
E. W.

The usual motion for a new trial was made by  
Mr. Boardman, one of Mr. Wiman's counsel. The  
court adjourned to June 20, when the arguments  
will be heard. Meanwhile Mr. Wiman will re-  
main in the Tombs.

Throughout the trial Mr. Dun and Mr. Doug-  
lass were in constant attendance. Mr. Dun was  
not there yesterday, but Mr. Douglass was.  
These were the jurors who decided Mr. Wiman's  
fate:

George Murray, hotel manager, Henry B.  
Nesbitt, secretary, No. 1 Broadway; Victor Hako  
Machinsky, piano manufacturer, No. 52 West  
Fourth-st.; William J. Lairs, salesman, No. 199  
West Fifty-fourth-st.; Ellis Van Clair, laundry,  
No. 42 Gramist-st.; William E. Larch, watchmaker,  
No. 14 Maiden Lane; Amundus Hochmuth, clerk,  
No. 45 Bleecker-st.; Homer S. Pennock, insurance  
agent, No. 140 Fulton-st.; John N. Higgins, receiving  
agent, No. 7 Grace & Co., Pier No. 13, East River;  
Oscar W. Shaw, Jeweler, No. 42 West Fourth-st.;  
and Herman F. Hindell, for dealer, No. 361 Broadway.

It is said that after their retirement a ballot  
was taken resulting in 7 for conviction, 8 for  
acquittal and two blank. Their arguments were  
begun, with the final verdict of guilty.

On the assembling of the court and jurors in  
the morning there was little delay. The at-  
tendance was large, and no seats were available  
after the opening. The counsel and defendant  
were prompt in appearing.

GENERAL TRACY'S PLEA.  
General Tracy opened for the defence. He con-  
tended that all the acts of Mr. Wiman were  
within the limits of commercial law. He pointed  
to the fact that even a fictitious name might be  
used in the drawing of a check for the con-  
veyance of funds which the defendant had a  
right to use on his own account. General Tracy  
held that the action of Mr. Wiman in applying  
the check of Bullinger to his own account was  
without significance in law, and could have been  
performed without any intent to defraud. But  
when General Tracy began to cite opinions on  
this subject he was interrupted by Justice  
Ingraham with the suggestion that this argu-  
ment could not apply to the case pending. Then  
followed a discussion of the articles of as-  
sociation under which R. G. Dun & Co. were  
organized. General Tracy maintained the idea  
that the practice of the corporation through the  
officers justified Mr. Wiman in acting as he did  
in the way of the appropriation of checks. He  
insisted that Mr. Dun was fully aware of Mr.  
Wiman's overdrafts. He had looked upon them  
as incidents in the management of affairs.  
Then General Tracy took up the question of  
intent to defraud on the part of Mr. Wiman.  
He referred to the position of the defendant, who  
was supervising the property in which Mr. Dun  
himself was interested, and he referred to the  
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ERASTUS WIMAN CONVICTED.  
GUILTY OF FORGERY IN THE SECOND  
DEGREE.

THE MAXIMUM PENALTY IS TEN YEARS' IM-  
PRISONMENT—CLOSING SCENES OF THE TRIAL  
—THE SPEECHES OF GENERAL TRACY  
AND MR. WELLMAN AND JUSTICE IN-  
GRAHAM'S CHARGE—MR. WIMAN  
IN THE TOMBS.

The trial of Erastus Wiman ended yesterday  
in a verdict of guilty of forgery in the second  
degree against the defendant, accompanied by the  
recommendation to the mercy of the Court. The  
maximum penalty is ten years in the State  
Prison, but the Judge in his discretion may pre-  
scribe a smaller term of imprisonment.

General Benjamin F. Tracy made an able and  
pathetic plea in behalf of his client; and Mr.  
Wellman, for the people, delivered an argument  
of much force, supported by the many admis-  
sions of Mr. Wiman contained in his letters to  
Mr. and Mrs. Dun. But it was a plea devoid of  
bitterness and marked by respect for the feelings  
of the defendant, whom he always referred to as  
"Mr. Wiman." The charge of Justice In-  
graham was severe upon the defendant.

Several members of the jury were visibly af-  
fected by General Tracy's remarks, and the de-  
fendant himself was at two or three points  
deeply moved. Even General Tracy was at one  
time overcome by his own emotions and was  
obliged to pause abruptly until he could recover  
his self-control.

HOW MR. WIMAN RECEIVED IT.  
The jury retired for deliberation at 2:35 o'clock  
and returned to the courtroom at 4:30 o'clock.  
Mr. Wiman received the announcement of their  
verdict with considerable composure, though  
when the jury filed out of the courtroom after  
the conclusion of the Judge's charge his form  
trembled and his eyes filled with tears. One of  
his sons grasped his hand and spoke consolingly  
to him, and immediately a group of friends sur-  
rounded him, drawing his mind away from the  
incident by engaging him in cheerful conversation.

With each moment's delay in the return of the  
jury, hope of either acquittal or disagreement  
seemed to increase. When a sudden commotion  
in the courtroom occurred, and finally Justice  
Ingraham ascended the dais, the face of Mr.  
Wiman resumed its former expression of anxiety.  
But he had been buoyed up by the conversation  
of his friends, and when the blow fell at last he  
remained standing until directed to be seated. As  
soon as the court adjourned, his friends sur-  
rounded him again and shook his hand cordially  
and expressed their sympathy. But he promptly  
responded to the call of the court officers, and  
in the custody of Deputy Sheriffs Brown and  
Kelly, he walked up Centrost to the Tombs, ac-  
companied by two of his sons. At the entrance  
he bade them a kind and fatherly goodbye. He  
passed in and was assigned to cell No. 40 in the  
Old Prison. To reporters who called on him  
afterward he made friendly responses. To The  
Tribune reporter he wrote on a slip of paper:

Dear Friend: I am sorry not to be able to see  
any one.  
E. W.

The usual motion for a new trial was made by  
Mr. Boardman, one of Mr.